

CONFIDENTIAL

### **Board of Governors**

# Minutes of the sixtleth meeting held on Monday 5 November 2012

Present:

Clive Jones - in the Chair

Syed Ali Kathy Castle

Katherine Farr (by conference call)

Emir Feisal

Malcolm Gillies - Vice-Chancellor

Ian Jennings Maureen Laurie Tony Millns Ann Minogue Daleep Mukarji Mark Robson

In attendance:

Paul Bowler, Deputy Chief Executive

Peter McCaffery, Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Pam Nelson, Director of Finance Alison Wells, University Secretary Jonathan Woodhead, Executive Officer David Noyce, HEFCE (until minute 811.3) Karen Dukes, PwC (until minute 811.3) Glen Babcock, PwC (until minute 811.3)

## 805 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Rob Hull, Dianne Willcocks, Sean Connolly and Lyn Link.

### 806 Membership

The Board:

- (1) Welcomed Ian Jennings as the Governor elected by and from the staff, succeeding Kay Dudman;
- (2) Welcomed Syed Ali as the student Governor;
- (3) Ratified the action of the Chair in reappointing Maureen Laurie as an independent member until 30 September 2013.

The Board also noted that Ian Jennings had recently resigned from the University and would be taking up a post elsewhere.

## 807 Declarations of interest

The Board noted Mark Robson's interest as a member of the Board of HEFCE.

#### 808 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> September were confirmed as a correct record.

### 809 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

# 810 Vice-Chancellor's confidential report to HEFCE and the Board

The Vice-Chancellor introduced his eleventh quarterly report to the HEFCE Board, a report which is separate from the Vice-Chancellor's general report to the Board of Governors on university matters.

He drew governors' particular attention to the following points:

 The University's formal communication to the Middle States Commission for Higher Education following the UKBA revocation of its Tier 4 sponsorship licence, which it was hoped would address any questions MSCHE may have as a consequence.

• The Shared Services Initiative had been terminated following careful deliberation by the Shared Services Oversight Group and the Executive on a number of points including legal advice relating to the propriety of LMU entering into an eight year contract at this point in time. The need for business process redesign remained urgent, indeed, was becoming critical.



Approximately 1200 international students were enrolled at LMU (not all of whom were Tier 4). This positive position was in no small part due to the hard work of staff and to those students' faith in the institution. The timing and findings of judicial review would be critical. The date of the Judicial Review hearing was expected to be Spring/Summer 2013.

The Board noted the position and discussed possible options and tactics in relation to any application for a new Tier 4 licence.

# 811 Future Scenarios

# 811.1 Financial Forecast

Governors' attention was drawn to a number of key points:



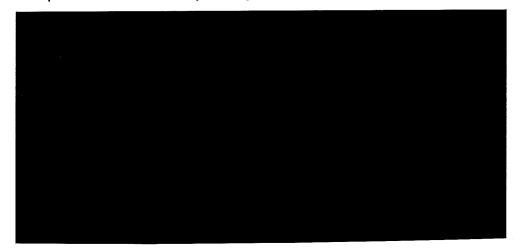
Part minute redacted on grounds of commercial confidentiality (s.43(2); upheld by the ICO



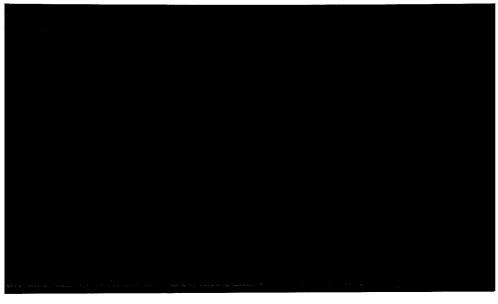
- Plans were in train for recruitment of an additional cohort of students in January 2013.
- HEFCE would expect to see strong business and action plans to be assured of LMU position before considering any changes to the repayment plan.

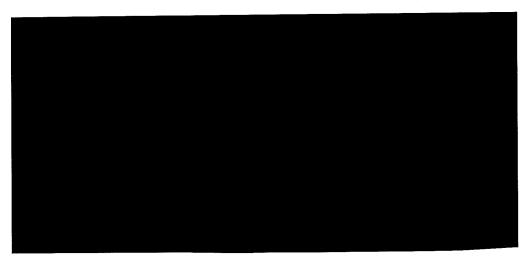
The Board approved the financial forecasts for the purposes of adjusting faculty and departmental budgets for 2012-13, for more detailed financial planning and to inform the "Going Concern" review to finalise the 2011-12 financial statements.

# 811.2 Options for the University – an update by PWC

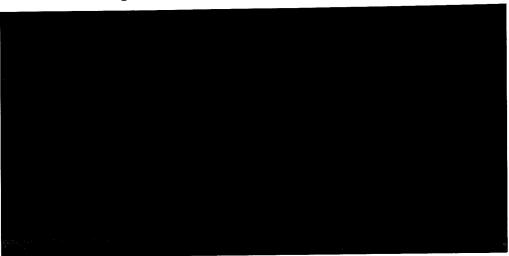


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# 811.3 Revised University Budget for 2012/13

The Board recalled the detailed discussion under item 811.1 above and noted that members of the Audit and the Finance and Resources Committees had had an opportunity to comment.

The Board approved the financial forecasts and the revised University budget for 2012/13 for purposes of completing financial statements.

# 812 Shared Services Initiative

Pam Nelson introduced the papers, placing into the formal record of the Board the decisions taken outside scheduled meetings. The Executive were pressing ahead to engage consultants for business process redesign under an existing procurement framework. The Invitation To Tender would

be issued in next couple of weeks, with consultants engaged and on site by the middle of January. The initial focus of the work would be on business processes which had contact with students and where process improvement would directly benefit the student experience.

## 813 Stapleton House sale

Paul Bowler introduced the paper and drew key points and the formal recommendations to governors' attention.

Part minute redacted on grounds of commercial confidentiality (s.43.2); upheld by the ICO

Following discussion the Board **approved** the delegation of authority to the Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Chief Executive to sign the Heads of Terms agreement with Unite in accordance with the provisions in the paper, with an update report and confirmation of the final Heads of Terms to be made to the next Board meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2012.

It was noted for future estates disposals that it would be greatly beneficial to the University itself to secure planning permissions in advance of marketing the properties.

## 814 Any other business

#### 814.1 Letters from Trades Union

The Board noted letters from UCU and Unison. Paul Bowler and Peter McCaffery had met the unions that morning and had discussed with them the key points in the letters.

The Chair noted that the consistent theme of the correspondence was about the unions having greater access to information. There was a detailed discussion about the risks and the opportunities of taking such an approach. The Board asked the Executive to reflect further on this.

## 815 Date of next meeting

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm. **Certified to be a true record:**-

Chair, 29 November 2012